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February 24, 1905 322

GERMANY.

Report from Berlin—Plague and cholera in various countries.

Consul-General Mason reports, February 4, as follows:

Plague.

Russia.—In the Ural territory, during the period from January 3 to 9, inclusive, there occurred 15 deaths from plague and 8 new cases. The total number of deaths from plague in this district from the end of November to January 9 amounts to 340.

During the period from January 10 to 16, inclusive, there occurred in the Cossack station at Saraitschikowskaja 3 deaths from plague.

Egypt.—During the week ended January 21 there occurred 4 fresh cases of plague (and 3 deaths), viz, 3 cases (2 deaths) in Suez, and 1 case (1 death) in the district of Tukh.

Straits Settlements.—In Singapore 3 cases of plague were registered on December 30.

Siam.—In Bangkok since the middle of December of last year several cases of plague have occurred. According to the statements of the local sanitary authorities, 9 persons had succumbed to plague up to December 22. Energetic measures have been taken to prevent the spread of plague, which it is claimed now afflicts Bangkok for the first time since the year 1782.

Japan.—In Hiogo on December 14 a barber's assistant died of plague.

Cholera.

Russia.—According to official reports there were registered in the Empire during the week ended January 8, 23 new cases of cholera (and 27 deaths), as compared with 61 cases (120 deaths) in the preced-

ing week.

Turkey.—According to an official report dated December 20, the vilayet of Bagdad has been for some few weeks free from cholera, but in Basra and Mosul cases continue to occur. In Bagdad the cholera epidemic prevailed continuously for almost a full year, reaching its height between July and October. During the month of August hundreds of patients succumbed daily to the disease, the result being a general flight and a standstill of commerce.

Death rate of Berlin and other cities.

The death rate of Berlin for the week ended January 21 was lower than that of the preceding week, amounting, calculated on the year, to 16.2 per thousand of the population, this being considerably higher than the rate for the same week of last year, in which it amounted to Among the large towns and cities of Germany only the following had a lower death rate than Berlin during the week in question, namely: Leipzig, Bremen, Kiel, Essen, and Schöneberg (with 9.5). The following cities had a considerably higher rate of mortality than Berlin, viz, Hamburg, Munich, Frankfort-on-the-Main, Hanover, Dresden, Magdeburg, Rixdorf (with 18.7), Charlottenburg (with 16.4), Strassburg, Nuremberg, Carlsruhe, Brunswick, Stettin, Breslau, as well as London, Paris, and Vienna. The decrease in the number of deaths as compared with the preceding week was almost exclusively confined to children in the first year of life, the infant mortality rate having dropped to 3.2 per year and thousand, this being lower than the rate of Hamburg and Munich.